

**Camden Budget Committee
Minutes of Meeting
March 10, 2011**

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chairman Edward Doudera, Matthew Lewis, Brian Gasser, Tom Massey, Meg Sideris, Peter Orne, Delisa Morong, Howard Jones, John Arnold, Randy Stearns, Kristin Bifulco, Vice Chair Tom Filip, Kimberly Taliadourus, Anita Zeno, Frank Carr, James Heard, Ken Kohl, Sandy Cox, Rebecca Flanagan, James Ostrowski, Town Manager Roberta Smith and Select Board members Dodge, French, Laidlaw, Cates and Grove.

ABSENT: Steve Durrell and Bernard Predham

Chairman Doudera called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Scheduled for discussion this evening are the following proposed budgets: Police Department; Public Safety Dispatch; Fire Department; Public Safety Building; Hydrant Assessment; Streetlights; Public Works; Streets & Sidewalks; Parking; and Tree Program.

Each line item was reviewed and questions were raised by committee members, Chief Gagne and Town Manager Smith explained the details. After discussion,

Tom Filip made a motion to recommend the Town Managers' recommendation of \$923,700 for the Police Department budget. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Police Capital Improvements,

Manager Smith reported the proposed budget includes funding for the scheduled replacement of a police vehicle. Replacement of the police pickup was planned two years ago. The current police truck will be transferred to the Fire Department as the Fire Chief's vehicle.

John Arnold made a motion to recommend \$32,000 appropriation for a new police truck. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 15-6-0 vote.

Regarding Knox County Dispatch,

John Arnold made a motion to approve the Town Manager's recommendation of \$122,309 for Knox County Dispatch services. Randy Stearns seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding the Fire Department

Chief Farley reviewed line items in his budget and questions were raised by committee members, Chief Farley and Town Manager Smith explained the details. After further discussion,

John Arnold made a motion to approve the Town Manager's recommendation of \$332,270 for the Fire Department. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Fire Department Capital Reserves,

Manager Smith reported the scheduled FY12 fire truck purchase is planned to replace both Engine 1 and Engine 6. Under this plan, Engine 6 will remain in service for the remainder of its useful life and not be

replaced. The proposed replacement vehicle will be a rescue/pumper style vehicle that is more versatile than the current engine. The truck will be funded with current funds in the Fire Department Reserve (\$110,304) and the balance financed. The truck would be ordered late in FY12 such that no bond payment would be due until FY13; therefore there is no financial impact on the FY12 budget.

Matthew Lewis made a motion to make a recommendation of \$560,000 for the new fire truck (which will be a new line in the budget in capital improvements). John Arnold seconded this motion. The motion passed on 14-6-1 vote.

Discussion, Manager Smith is recommending \$50,000 (new budget line) for a truck bay vehicle exhaust system for the Public Safety Building. An exhaust removal system is needed for the public safety building to remove the diesel and gasoline exhaust from the building. Chief Farley The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, OSHA, National Fire Protection Association, and Boards of Health recognize that diesel and gasoline engines generate carcinogenic gases and particulates which are extremely dangerous health hazards. Fumes generated by the apparatus currently remain in the building and dissipate over time. These systems are present in many situations where vehicles are stored and personnel work in the same building. The proposed system covers the apparatus and maintenance bay. The Fire Dept has applied for grants for this Source Capture Emergency Vehicle Exhaust System for two years through FEMA assistance and three times through different programs. If the town receives a grant it would provide assistance for the majority of the cost. To date their requests have not been awarded and they do continue to monitor for grant programs for future opportunities.

John Arnold made a motion to recommend an appropriation of \$50,000 for the vehicle exhaust removal system for the public safety building. Kimberly Taliadouros seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-1-0 vote.

Regarding Public Safety Building,

James Heard made a motion to recommend the Town Manager's recommendation of \$50,500 for the Public Safety Building line. Randy Stearns seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Hydrant Assessment,

Tom Filip made a motion to approve the proposed Hydrant Assessment budget at \$218,550. Randy Stearns seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Street Lights,

Tom Filip made a motion to approve the Manager's recommendation for \$58,500 for the Streetlights budget. James Ostrowski seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Public Works,

Manager Smith reported with a winter maintenance reserve fund we have been able to maintain a more conservative level of annual funding for winter maintenance. Increases in this budget reflect the increased cost of materials and fuel and the need to invest more in infrastructure repair and improvements. In addition to maintenance work, projects planned this season are the completion of the bridge and drainage work on Molyneaux Road and Belmont Avenue.

John Arnold made a motion to approve Town Manager's recommendation for the proposed Public Works budget at \$828,400. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-1-0 vote.

Regarding Capital Improvements for Public Works,

John Arnold made a motion to approve the Town Manager's recommendation for \$31,000 for Molyneaux Road bridges wing wall, \$48,000 for the Belmont Avenue box culvert, and \$35,000 to replace the Public Works 1998 one ton with no plow. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Streets and Sidewalks;

Tom Filip made a motion to approve the Manager's recommendation of \$326,500 for Streets and Sidewalks budget. Howard Jones seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding Parking,

Tom Filip made a motion to approve the Manager's recommendation of \$3200 for the Parking budget. Kim Taliadouros seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Regarding the Tree Program; Manager Smith explained that the tree planting line item (\$1,100) is for the annual shade tree planting program. The tree maintenance line item (\$10,000) is for maintenance on town trees.

Randy Stearns made a motion to approve \$11,100 for the tree planting and tree maintenance budget. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Manager Smith noted concerning the town's unclassified assessments to date she knows that Midcoast Solid Waste's assessment is a decrease of \$26,633 and the Knox County assessment (excluding dispatch) is going to be a decrease of \$3,169 but what she does not know yet and probably won't until the budget review is completed is what kind of assessment we will get from SAD 28 and the CSD. These decreases could offset the town's budget and provide us with a little cushion but without knowing the impact of the school budget she cannot say what the outcome will be. She just wanted the budget committee to keep in mind that we may have some room in the budget to work with if the school assessments don't eat up both of the decreases for the other assessments.

Tom Filip made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 pm. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on 21-0-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice L. Esancy
Recording Secretary